

# **Welcome to the 447th AEG**



**The gateway to Baghdad  
and beyond...**

# 447 AEG Mission

The 447th Air Expeditionary Group is based at Baghdad International Airport in Baghdad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The group was established in April 2003 after elements of the U.S. Army's 3rd Division captured the airport on April 4th of the same year.

The group provides base operating support for Sather Air Base, aerial port operations, explosive ordnance disposal and aircraft maintenance for transient aircraft.

The airfield is a joint civilian-military airport with a military ramp on one side and a civilian runway on the other for civilian passenger airways and humanitarian airlift operations. More than 600 active duty, Air Reserve, Air National Guard and civilian personnel are assigned to the 447th AEG. The 447th also supports the Multi National Forces (MNF-I) Iraq. The 447th AEG reports to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Balad Air Base Iraq, which is aligned under U.S. Central Command Air Forces (USCENTAF), the air component for U.S. Central Command. USCENTAF develops contingency plans, conducts air operations and supports national engagement policy for a 25-nation area of responsibility that stretches from Kenya, located in eastern Africa, southward to the Seychelles Islands, across the Arabian Peninsula and Southwest Asia to Pakistan and northward through Afghanistan to the states capitol of Central Asia.



Squadrons assigned to the 447th AEG:

- Expeditionary Civil Engineering Sq
- Expeditionary Communications Sq
- Expeditionary Logistic Readiness Sq
- Expeditionary Medical Sq
- Expeditionary Security Forces Sq
- Expeditionary Operations Support Sq
- Expeditionary Services Sq
- Group Staff Agencies:
  - Air Force Office of Special Investigation
  - Chapel
  - Contracting
  - Finance
  - PERSCO
  - Safety
  - Inspector General
  - Protocol
  - Public Affairs

# SATHER AIR BASE—Rules to Live By



All members will follow the rules listed in General Order No. 1.

These rules take into consideration the local environment, close quarters and 24-hour work schedules. These rules are for safety, force protection and mission accomplishment.

- No Alcohol
- No Drugs
- No Gambling
- No heat producing devices such as coffee pots, irons, curling irons, microwaves etc are authorized in tent living quarters.
- No person of the opposite sex is authorized to visit each other inside tent living quarters.
- No pornographic or sexually explicit material
- Cigarette/Cigar smoking is authorized in designated areas only.
- Theft of material, equipment, furniture or other government supplies will be investigated and addressed with disciplinary action.

## CONSERVING WATER

- Combat Showers: Personnel should turn water on to wet their body and hair, then shut it off. Lather up with soap, turn water on to rinse off. The water should not run more than three minutes.
- Only wash full loads of laundry.
- Wash vehicles only at the wash rack by vehicle maintenance.

## SAFETY—THINK, ACT, DO

- Safety is everyone's responsibility!
- Hydrate: Drink plenty of water to prevent heat disorders.
- Do not drink from water bottles if seal is broken prior to first sip.
- Speed limit in tent city is 5 mph.
- Weapons: Unless on official business, clear weapons when entering camp facilities.
- No nature hikes: Due to unexploded ordinance in the area, no one should venture away from approved roads of travel.
- Open flames or candles are prohibited in the camp.
- Everyone is a safety officer: If you see a mishap, report it to your unit safety representative or the safety office at 446-2458.



# Sather Air Base

Sather Air Base is named in honor of SSgt. Scott Sather, a Flint, Michigan native, who was killed in combat on 8 Apr 2003. SSgt Sather was assigned to the 24th Special Tactics Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C. He was known for his intensity, exceptional operator skills, and strong leadership qualities.

During both of his Operation Enduring Freedom deployments, SSgt. Sather conducted numerous classified operations against the enemy. During OIF, he led the crossing of the Iraqi border on the opening days of the ground war and continued to play a key leadership role throughout the operation. "Scott was a great teammate and a good example to us all," said Chief Master Sgt. Paul Venturella, 24th STS chief enlisted manager, Pope Air Force Base, NC. "He is sorely missed, and we will continue to remember him. We are very proud that a deployed air base bears his name."



As a combat controller the special tactics field, Sgt. Sather was trained for air traffic control, airfield surveys, close air support missions, and command and control operations in austere environments, according to Chief Venturella. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and two devices, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal, and many more.

Sgt. Sather is survived by his wife Melanie, his mother Karin Craft and her husband Lucky Craft, his father Rodney

Sather and his wife Laurie Sather, his brothers Jason, Derek and J.C., his sisters Lisa and Becky, and many relatives, friends, and teammates.

On 8 Apr 2005, in a special ceremony, the 447th Air Expeditionary Group rededicated Camp Sather as Sather Air Base





# Around Sather

## LODGING

The base lodging is office is open 24 hours a day and acts as the base locator. Tent swapping is not allowed without first sergeant approval. The ranking person in the tent is responsible to ensure all occupants maintain proper sanitation inside and out side the tent. Anything issued from lodging must be turned in prior to departure. First Sergeant and fire department perform random tent inspections for cleanliness and fire hazards. Quiet hours are 24/7 in tent city.



## LAUNDRY SERVICE



Self-service commercial grade washers and dryers are provided along with laundry detergent. We recommend you mark your clothing with the first letter of your last name and last four of SSAN.



Luis Laundry—Clean uniforms may be dropped off at Luis Laundry located in Rosie's Café; contracted personnel will press your uniforms for free.

## FINANCE

The finance office provides check cashing services, travel accrual vouchers, processes military pay inquiries and acts as a liaison between you and your home station finance office. There are NO ATMs located on Sather Air Base or any surrounding Army camps. In accordance with CENTAF policy you are only allowed one partial payment, therefore it is highly recommended you bring personal/travelers checks with you. All Air Force members are required to log onto the My Pay Website and acquire a My Pay PIN for access to your military pay account while deployed. Customer Service Hours: 0700 – 1230/1400-1800 Mon—Sat.



## CHAPEL

447<sup>th</sup> AEG Chapel Team provides weekly worship opportunities, bible study and prayer, visitation and counseling.

The Chapel also provides a place to have coffee or lemonade & relax with friends 24 hours a day.



## LEGAL SERVICES

Legal service is limited to Notary Public Service at Sather AB. All other legal services are provided by 332nd AEW/JA at Balad Air Base. If you need an attorney you may contact one at 458-2636 or via [email](#).

Area Defense Counsel is offered through the ADC office at Ramstein AB GM. You may contact them at DSN 480-2182.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Public Affairs office is located in the 447th AEG headquarters building and is open from 0800 to 2000 daily.

**Flight line Photography/Clearing Images:** Flight line photography is prohibited unless previously cleared through Public Affairs. Individuals caught taking photos on and around the flight line area without PA approval run the risk of being apprehended by Security Forces. While it is impossible for PA to police all members with digital cameras, military and civilian employees are reminded to think about OPSEC and force protection when taking photos.

Everyone is asked to use the same principle from weapons training; only aim at what you intend to shoot. Know what is behind your target/subject you are taking a picture of. While it's o.k. to take pictures on Sather Air Base to send home,; it's not o.k. to take photographs and send them directly to the media without being cleared through PA first.

## Home Town News Release

The Army and AF Hometown News Service reports on the individual accomplishments of active-duty, guard and reserve members as well as DOD civilians. The news service sends news releases to media serving your hometown. Some suitable subjects for a hometown news release are: Promotions, Arrival for duty, awards and decorations, reenlistments, or individual achievements. If you're interested in letting people back home know about your significant events, fill out a DD Form 2266 and drop it off at the 477th PA office.

## Media Inquires

If you are contacted by members of the media you should call Public Affairs.



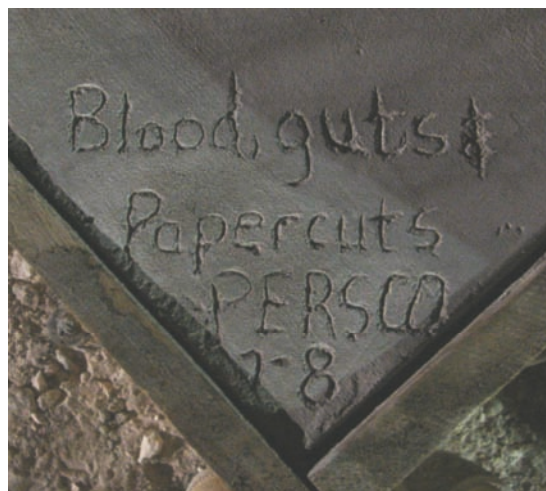
## Personnel Support for Contingency Operations (PERSCO)

Some people may think of us as the “deployed MPF”, but actually our primary mission is to provide total force accountability to commanders at all levels of Air Force active duty, Reserve, Guard, & DAF civilians deployed in the BIAP area. Our secondary mission is casualty reporting; since we are a 24 hour operation, we also serve as the focal point for all Red Cross Messages. And last, but certainly not least, we are here to provide personnel support to deployed members. Typical MPF actions we can assist you with are:

- Changes to SGLI
- Separation or retirement applications
- DEROS Forecasting
- CJR Requests
- Limited promotion release actions
- Assignment notifications
- Dream Sheet updates
- Retraining
- Reenlistment and extensions

You will in-process with PERSCO immediately upon arrival — do not pack your mobility folder — **HANDCARRY** it! Please make sure your ID card will not expire while deployed.

If you are going to be promoted during your deployment you must hand carry a promotion recommendation letter from your commander. Also, if you will be reenlisting during your deployment, you must bring your reenlistment documents with you; PERSCO will collect these documents during in-processing.



# EMEDS

447 EMEDS provides 24-hour sick call and emergency medical care plus the following capabilities: medical command and control (C2), preventive medicine, trauma resuscitation and stabilization, basic general and orthopedic surgery, critical care, primary care, aeromedical evacuation coordination, aerospace medicine, urgent care, dental, and limited ancillary services.



447 EMEDS provides only limited holding capability of less than 24 hours. Timely aeromedical evacuation support is provided via the MASF.

A variety of services are available to members of the Sather Air Base community, specifically:

1. Sick call services. Many risks are associated with life at Sather Air Base; heat stroke, sprained ankles, upset stomach, cuts, scrapes, bruises etc. These, and many other, problems can be treated by stopping in and seeing a doctor. Sick call services are offered 24-7, and you do not need an appointment. If you are not feeling "up to snuff", stop by any time.
2. Dental Care. The 447 EMEDS offers emergency and acute dental services. The dental clinic entrance is located to the left of the EMEDS ER main entrance. We provide dental care 24/7. All dental patients should report to the ER for dental emergency. The dental clinic does have the capability to perform routine cleanings. If you are experiencing any type of dental pain or discomfort, or have any questions, please stop and talk to our staff. We encourage all Sather personnel to be aware of their dental readiness profile.
3. Life Skills offers a variety of services and classes from one-on-one counseling to smoking cessation classes. For Life Skills counseling, you are able to make an appointment.
4. The 447 EMEDS carries a broad array of pharmaceuticals and therapeutics. Most health conditions prevalent at BIAP have corresponding medications available.
5. We offer basic orthopedic and general surgical services.

## STAYING HEALTHY WHILE DEPLOYED



**Personal Hygiene:** Your mother was right: "Wash your hands, clean your room!". The biggest medical threat here is poor sanitation. Wash your hands after using the latrine. Remove trash from your tents and place in a sealed garbage bag in the dumpster. Leaving trash and food around invites critters such as insects, rodents, snakes, scorpions and feral cats, to move in with you.





#### SUN:

Apply sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher to all exposed skin when working outdoors. Wear a hat and keep your sleeves rolled down. If you have a pounding headache or feel dizzy, weak or nauseated, get in the shade and start drinking water immediately. If your conditions don't improve in 15-20 minutes, seek medical attention. During the hotter months of the year the Command Post will announce the heat stress stages.

#### WATER:

The water from the taps is not potable. It should only be used for showering, laundry and cleaning. Drink and brush your teeth with bottled water. Be sure to drink plenty of water—two liters per hours when working outside in hot weather. To check yourself for adequate hydration, use the “pee test”. If your voided urine is the color of diluted lemonade, you're staying well hydrated.

#### ANIMALS:

Do not feed any stray animals in camp. This is a violation of General Order No 1. Strayed animals may carry fleas, ticks, rabies, and are hosts to sand flies, which cause leishmaniasis. Many bats come out at night. They are actually beneficial because they eat their weight in insects that would otherwise be biting you. However, they can carry rabies. If you find a sick bat on the ground do not touch it or attempt to pick it up. Poisonous scorpions, camel spiders, black widows and brown recluse spiders are also on the camp. When in your tent, shake out clothing or footwear before putting them on. Use caution when working around piles of equipment or debris. Wear work gloves!. There are also poisonous snakes on site, such as the Desert Horned Viper. Never attempt to catch or kill a snake. Give it plenty of room and it will go away. As with scorpions and spiders, use caution when moving stored equipment or pallets as there may be snakes hiding there.

#### INSECTS:

Leishmaniasis and malaria are here. Always wear permethrin treated uniforms and use DEET on exposed skin when out and about between the hours of dusk and dawn. It is not necessary to take anti-malarial medication while deployed to Sather Air Base.



# Morale & Recreation



The Services squadron provides numerous facilities & activities for the Airmen and Soldiers assigned to Sather Air Base. There's sure to be something to meet your needs

The recreation tent offers a place to relax and watch TV, play the latest video games on Xbox or Play Station 2, or simply enjoy a traditional card or board game. You can also buy snacks, drinks and borrow DVDs.



Not enough for you? How about spending time in the gaming tent where you play pool, darts, foosball. Our popular weekly Texas Hold 'em tournaments are held here too.

Other offerings include weekly BINGO events & week-end music nights for people to dance.



Need to contact family or friends? The Baghdad Connection morale tent is the place for you.

Phones and computers to meet all your communication needs. Please note you will **NOT** have access to internet email such as Hot-mail, AOL, or Yahoo.

GI Mail is a good alternative. For details contact your local Communications Squadron prior to deployment.



Our fitness tents will be a frequent stop for those looking to stay in shape or get in shape. One tent is equipped with a variety of cardio equipment and the other has equipment for strength training.



Enjoy being outdoors?

Services offers a variety of outdoor activities such as horse-shoes, volleyball, and basketball. We also host monthly 5K runs and have sports field for flag football and soccer.



Watching a movie with popcorn more your style? The Arabian Nights Theater has scheduled movies every weekend. When no movies are showing, you can use the theater to watch a movie of your choice.



A self-service library with over 6,000 books is also available for reading and studying.



## American Red Cross

The closest offices are located at Camp Liberty and Camp Victory. Be sure to tell your family members (including parents and other relatives) procedures for contacting the Red Cross. It's also a good idea to leave a copy of your orders. Make sure your family members know how to contact your home station first sergeant or commander for emergency situations.

## Deployed Mailing Address:

While deployed to Sather AB your mail will be sent to your unit, your mailing address will be:

Rank/Name

Unit (ex: 447 AEG/ECES)

APO AE 09321

Be sure to visit the [AEF online website](#) for more information to help you prepare for your deployment. Also please be sure to thoroughly review the [CENTAF reporting instructions](#) with your UDM & PRU prior to deployment.

Please do not leave home without knowing where your final destination is and making contact with someone in the organization you're being deployed to.

If you have any questions or can not reach someone in your deployed unit please email [447 AEG/PERSCO](#)

We hope this information will make your deployment experience the best it can be!

